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EXPRESS MAILING LABEL NO.: EL665880720US

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PATENT
BOX PCT**IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)**

In re: Patent Application of : Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Soryu NAKAYAMA *et al.* :

International :
Appln. No.: PCT/JP01/02907 : Examiner:

International 3 April 2001 :
Filing Date: (03.04.01) :

For: NICKEL POSITIVE ELECTRODE PLATE : No.: 10059-401US
AND ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY : (P25379-01)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Simultaneously with the filing of the above-identified application with which this Preliminary Amendment is being filed, and prior to the calculation of the filing fee, Applicant hereby amends the application as follows, without prejudice:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please amend claims 4 and 5 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached hereto, having the bracketed additions and stricken deletions.

--4. The nickel positive electrode plate in accordance with claim 1, wherein said layer of a manganese compound has a thickness of 0.1 to 20 μm .

5. An alkaline storage battery comprising: the nickel positive electrode plate in accordance with claim 1; a negative electrode plate; a separator; and an alkaline electrolyte.--

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 15 are pending in the application.

The purpose of this amendment is to place the claims in appropriate U.S. form